

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An adhesive composition comprising a polychloroprene dispersion containing a tricyclic diterpenecarboxylic acid having at least two conjugated C=C double bonds per molecule.

5 2. The adhesive composition of Claim 1 comprising 100 parts by weight of a polychloroprene dispersion containing as emulsifier a tricyclic diterpenecarboxylic acid having at least two conjugated C=C double bonds per molecule, 15 to 75 parts by weight of an adhesive resin and 1 to 10 parts of a metal oxide comprising a member selected from the
10 group consisting of zinc oxide and magnesium oxide.

3. The adhesive composition of Claim 1 wherein the adhesive composition has an open time after evaporation of the water of 4 to 15 days.

15 4. The adhesive composition of Claim 2 wherein the resin comprises a terphenol resin having a softening point above 110°C.

5. A process for preparing an adhesive composition based on a polychloroprene dispersion containing a tricyclic diterpenecarboxylic acid having at least two conjugated C=C double bonds per molecule which
20 comprises reacting by emulsion polymerization chloroprene with from 2 to 20 parts by weight of 2,3-dichlorobutadiene in the presence of from 1 to 10 parts by weight of a tricyclic diterpenecarboxylic acid having at least two conjugated C=C double bonds per molecule as emulsifier, all amounts are based on 100 parts by weight of the monomers.

25 6. A contact adhesive for bonding inorganic or organic substrates comprising the adhesive composition of Claim 1.